FIVE CENTS

The Suffragist

OFFICIAL WEEKLY ORGAN OF
THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1917

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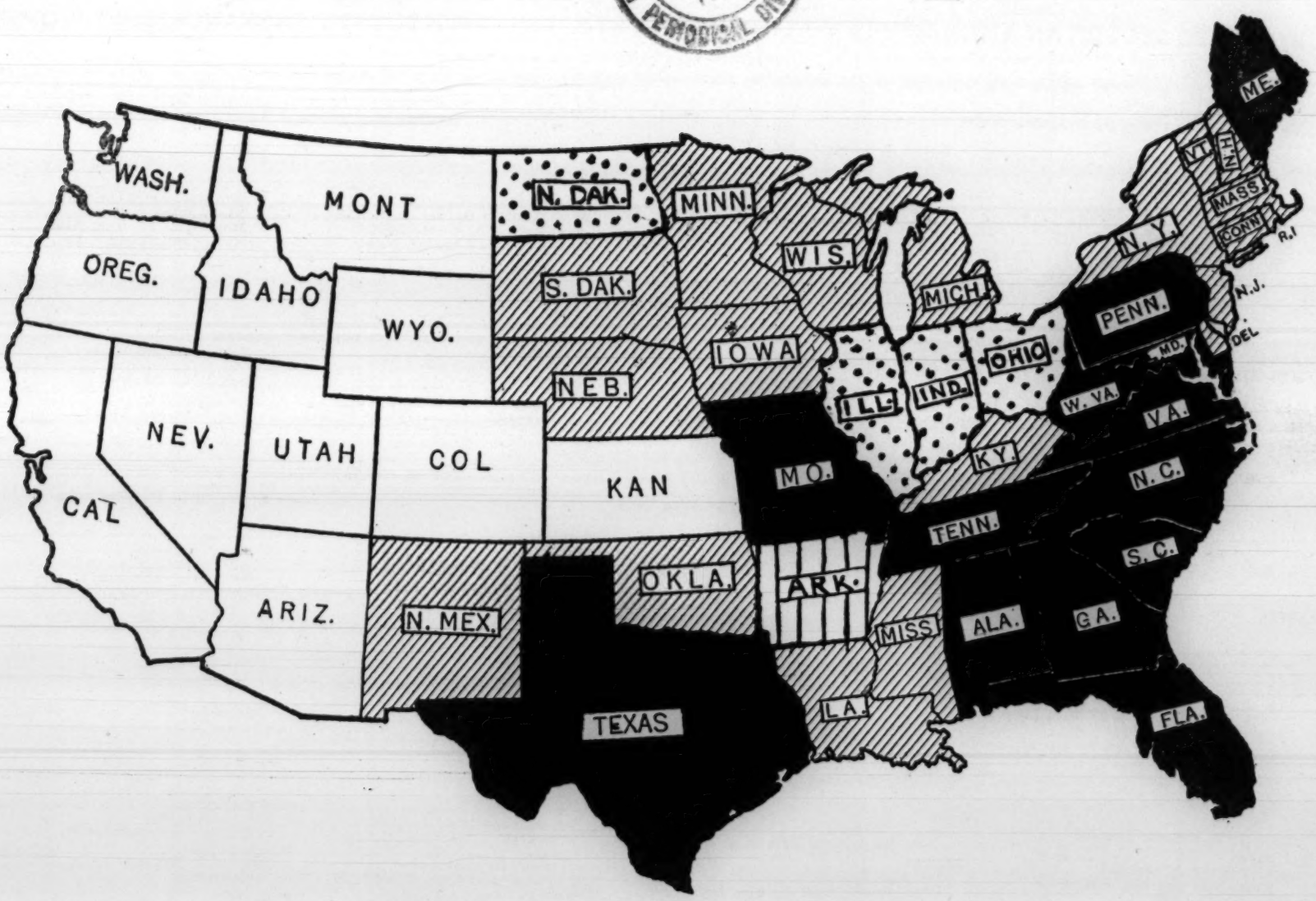

7,000,000 Women now vote in National Elections

Equal Suffrage is Now Established in 11 States

Presidential Suffrage is Now Established in 4 States

Primary Suffrage is Now Established in 1 State

From the States Where Women Vote Come
¼ of Electoral College (144 of the 531 Electoral Votes)
¼ of House (112 of the 435 Members of Congress)
⅓ of Senate (32 of the 96 Senators)

The Power that Voting Women Will Bring to Bear on the Sixty-fifth Congress

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OBJECT: TO SECURE AN AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION ENFRANCHISING WOMEN

MEMBERSHIP: Open to all women who, regarding woman suffrage as the foremost political issue of the day, will support it irrespective of the interests of any national political party.

ENTRANCE FEE: Twenty-five cents. There are no dues.

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Notes of the Week

Government by Parties

REPRESENTATIVE FITZGERALD of New York, Chairman of the Appropriations Committee in the Sixty-fourth Congress, protesting against a bipartisan agreement for organizing the House, made this statement in regard to party responsibility in our government:

"This is a government by political parties. The party in control must assume the responsibility. Bipartisan organization is impractical, impossible and never would have been suggested if the Republicans had any notion they could win."

It seems incredible but it is true that there are still politicians and a great number of newspaper men throughout the United States who maintain that suffragists are foolish and wrong to hold the administration accountable for legislation that it has not put through. They say that we have not a government by parties in this country. Even if these men cannot draw conclusions from a constant stream of events that proves them wrong, their ignorance should begin to be shaken by frequent definite statements like this from Democratic leaders.

Woman and War

THE National League for Woman's Service met with the Council for National Defence, the Department of Labor and other branches of the government in Washington on April 3, to consider forming a National Woman Power Board. Every side of woman's work in connection with war was discussed and decisions made for the first steps to be taken toward mobilizing the women of America for war service. The National League will make a special effort to have women included in a national military census of the resources of every state available in case of war. Such a law including women has recently been passed by the New York State legislature.

This prompt attempt to prevent the delays, mistakes and injustices in relation to women's war work that have happened in England is necessary and valuable. It will help to line women up quickly and efficiently and it recognizes the principle of women's civic importance. The best way to enable women to play their part in war, however, and to protect their interests through it is to give them now their fullest rights and responsibilities in the government that wages it.

Women's Wages in War Service

THE National Security Company of New York has established a "war substitution bureau" to help in replacing men with women in New York business offices during war. This company estimates the number of women likely to be needed because of the calling out of the militia and the possible raising of an army of 100,000. Mr. Joel Rathbone, the general manager, states that many New York firms are already exchanging men for women in wholesale numbers.

In a recent interview with a reporter of the New York *Tribune* Mr. Rathbone was asked whether the 100,000 men likely to leave their work at this time would lose their jobs permanently.

"Certainly not," he said.

He was then asked whether the woman substitutes would receive the same salary as the men whose places they filled.

"No, they don't ask as much," said Mr. Rathbone. "Labor is a commodity to be bought at the lowest price. We pay the young women what we think proper for their station in life and their responsibilities."

Nothing could be more enlightening as to one of the reasons why American women will demand immediate enfranchisement more strongly than ever if the United States is to enter the war against Germany than this frankly confessed point of view toward women in work. It is representative of the attitude of many of the employers of large numbers of women in this country. American women, however, are resolved that the United States shall not make the same mistakes that England has made. They know that if the economic position of women is not to be utterly confused by the unscrupulous use of women's work under the excuse of war women must be protected by the vote.

The Consent of the Governed

REPRESENTATIVE GALLIVAN of Massachusetts introduced into the House on April 2 a resolution to this end:

"That it is the sense of the American Congress that no peace can last, or ought to last, which does not recognize and accept the principle that governments derive all their just powers from the consent of the governed; that in whatever peace negotiations may follow the present war in Europe the rights of the people of Ireland should be fully recognized, to the end that a brave, worthy, liberty-loving and God-fearing people, who have long suffered from oppression and tryanny, shall have restored to them the fullest measure of national liberty and independence."

Representative Gallivan has stated and restated his opposition to the federal suffrage amendment. The reason he now gives for his stand is that his constituents have registered their will against suffrage in a state referendum. He ignores in this case his constituents who cannot register their will in this way. His strong feeling for the consent of the governed does not seem to operate in the case of suffrage.

Representative Gallivan should be warned by events that if he and other Democrats of his sort are not roused to democratic action, the United States, far from being able to lay down the law of democracy to the nations of Europe, will be one of the few countries left where millions of citizens are governed without their consent by an unjust government.

Suffrage Advances

DURING March both houses of the Iowa legislature have passed a constitutional amendment for woman suffrage. The amendment must be passed again by the next legislature before the referendum.

In Michigan the constitutional amendment has passed the House and a presidential suffrage bill has passed the Senate. Each bill is considered sure to pass the other house, and the legislature is in session until April 20. Governor Sleeper has signified his intention of signing both bills.

The Missouri House passed a presidential suffrage bill by a vote of 84 to 37 with no debate. The bill, however, did not pass the Senate because of its low position in the calendar. The strong sentiment for it indicates that it will pass both houses at the next session.

The first suffrage wedge into New England has come in the way of municipal suffrage in Vermont. This state recently defeated an amendment for equal suffrage by a close vote, but the bill which has passed proves that the suffrage leaven is working.

The English Franchise Bill

PREMIER LLOYD GEORGE on Friday of last week received the largest deputation of women that has ever come before a prime minister. The deputation was made to learn definitely whether the English government is introducing a franchise bill that includes woman suffrage, whether the government intends to make woman suffrage an integral part of the bill, and if the government whips will be used in support of it.

Mr. Lloyd George informed the deputation that he has given instructions for a bill to be drafted that will incorporate the recommendations of the Speaker's conference on franchise reform—which included a measure of equal suffrage. He said that government machinery will be used to press it through the House of Commons, but that no decision has yet been reached as to using whips for any part of the bill.

English women have evidently been in doubt as to just what Lloyd George meant by his enthusiastic speech for woman suffrage in the House on March 27. He was vague about the time the government meant to introduce this reform, and cabled reports stated that the new franchise reform bill would be introduced without the woman suffrage clause, which would be later added as an amendment to give the House a chance to vote on that point separately. The Premier's reply to this deputation was considered satisfactory, according to reports.

The strength of English women's demand upon the government was shown in the line-up of the deputation which consisted of police, omnibus conductors, munition and railroad workers, doctors, lawyers and representatives of every trade and profession.

Suffrage Pickets at the Gates of Congress

Suffrage Sentinels Resume Picket

"RUSSIA and England are enfranchising women in war time."

"How long must American women wait for Liberty?"

These were the slogans on great golden banners that greeted the Senators and the Congress of the United States on their return to Washington for the extra war session, when the Woman's Party suffrage pickets resumed their watch not only at the gates of the White House but also at the doors of Congress.

Just half an hour before Congress formally opened, the suffrage sentinels at the Capitol took their places, three at the House entrance and three at the Senate entrance. There was tensity in the atmosphere. The Capitol grounds were overrun with pacifists from many cities wearing white lettered badges; and with war advocates, as plainly labelled with partisan demands. They swarmed over the Capitol grounds unmolested, though extra police precautions were taken throughout the day and in the evening when troops of cavalry were called out. The silent sentinels stood unmoved the while for democracy while peace and war agitation eddied round them.

Seen from the steps of the Senate and House Buildings, and from the domed Capitol itself their floating purple, white and gold flags, their great golden banners, were an arresting sight against the tender spring foliage of the grounds. They took on the aspect of some happy omen among the hurrying and excited crowds. It is a remarkable fact that throughout the long day that the groups of women stood at the two entrances not one protest was made by passers-by. Countless men and women from remote cities and also from Canada and European countries came to them where they stood and applauded their stand and the sentiment on their banners.

No attempt at a demonstration was made by the Woman's Party members. They simply called attention to the fact that with the tide of sentiment running high both for and against war, one group was still standing out for complete democracy in America. Three sentinels stood all day on each side of the Capitol grounds, with the great lettered banners in the center flanked by the suffrage tri-color. At the Senate entrance voters from the West held the banners, while on the House side non-voting women representing Eastern states volunteered.

At the Capitol, with Miss Mabel Vernon of Delaware as captain the sentries were Mrs. Alden Potter of Minnesota, Miss Potter, Miss Elsie Hill, of Connecticut, Miss Ruth Crocker of Illinois, Miss Vivian Pierce and Miss Mildred Gilbert of California.

THE White House was picketed at both Pennsylvania Avenue main gates. With Miss Berta Crone as captain, the first women on guard were Mrs. Donald R. Hooker, President of the Just Government League of Maryland, who carried with her suffrage banner a large American flag; Mrs. Townsend Scott of Baltimore, Mrs. Margaret Baker of Delaware, Mrs. Blanche Weaver of Missouri, Mrs. J. E. Lambie of New York, Miss Maud Jamison of Virginia. Two women stood at each gate.

Throughout the day strangers offered their services as pickets at both the Capitol and the White House. The White House police were almost demonstrative in their welcome to the pickets after their brief vacation. The suffrage pickets had been withdrawn with winter still in the air; they returned with spring at its lovely beginning. It was a coincidence that the White House lawns were ablaze with the purple, white and gold of azalea, forsythea and hyacinths like a Woman's Party bouquet.

Miss Ernestine Evans of Chicago was the speaker on the day before the opening of Congress and the resumption of picketing at an informal tea given by the District branch of the Woman's Party under the chairmanship of Mrs. W. T. Burch. Miss Evans, who traveled through Russia and Germany in the early months of the present great war, gave a vivid account of the forward-looking attitude of the women in Russia, especially the remains of the early Revolutionary group that had given birth through sacrifice to the new life of Russia.

Miss Evans made the listening group realize that American women should feel some humility in looking toward the arisen democracy that has come up out of the war; certainly many women volunteered after her simple talk to serve as soldiers once more on the American picket line for liberty.

The Susan B. Anthony Amendment

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE—SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"SEC. 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

THE AMENDMENT IN THE SIXTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

Introduced

In the Senate on April 4, 1917, by Senators Thompson, Owen, Jones and Shafroth.

In the House, on April 2, 1917, by Representatives Raker, Rankin, Mondell, Keating and Hayden.

Referred

In the Senate to the Committee on Woman Suffrage.

In the House, to the Judiciary Committee.

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

In its present form, by Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

January 10, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the Senate.

Reported from Committee

In the Senate

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.
1916, Favorable majority.

In the House

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorabe minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.
1916. Without recommendation.

Voted Upon

In the Senate

January 25, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 26 (of whom 4 were announced as for and 2 against).

March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

In the House

January 12, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204, failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

The Suffragist

VOL. V, No. 62 **SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1917**

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Subscription, Domestic $1.00, *Foreign* $1.50. *Single copies, 5 cents. Make checks, drafts and post-office orders payable to The Treasurer of the National Woman's Party*

Columbian Printing Company, Inc., Washington, D. C.

Entered as second-class matter, Nov. 14, 1913, at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C., under act of March 3, 1879

Why Not Self Government at Home?

PRESIDENT WILSON in his war message to Congress said:

"We shall fight for the things we have always carried nearest our hearts—for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments."

The message concludes, still dealing with the defense of political liberty:

"To such a task we can dedicate our lives and our fortunes, everything that we are and everything that we have, with the pride of those who know that the day has come when America is privileged to spend her blood and her might for the principles that gave her birth and happiness and the peace which she has treasured. God helping her, she can do no less."

The President repeats several times as one of the fundamental reasons for entering the war that "the world must be made safe for democracy. Its peace must be planted upon the trusted foundations of political liberty."

To every woman who reads this message must come at once the question: if "the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments" is so sacred in the case of foreign peoples as to constitute, according to the President, a reason for entering upon an international war in its defence, why then does the President refuse all aid to the measure before Congress extending self government to half the population of our own country?

If we would have our voice heard with conviction by the nations of Europe, nations which with one accord are increasing political liberty within their own borders, we must speak with sincerity ourselves. We must give honestly in our own land that political liberty which we ask for them, but which, without freedom for women, is still unrealized in America.

We demand that the President and Congress, that think it necessary to wage an international war to defend the principle of self-government shall at the same time establish it in this country by enfranchising American women.

The Capitol Welcomes Jeannette Rankin

APRIL 2, 1917, that closed with war practically declared, a pacifist meeting in Convention Hall, with a cordon of police and militiamen drawn round it, and flags that waved in the high wind as the after-theatre extras broke the news to Washington, began with an event as significant in its way as any of the day's history.

At nine o'clock there sat down in the Shoreham Hotel a group of women representing all shades of belief, save perhaps the lost hope of the antis,—women for war and women for peace, women who want suffrage now and women who want it sometime before their daughters die. They were women welcoming a great occasion, the entrance of the first woman Congressman upon her duties, the Honorable Jeannette Rankin from Montana.

The Committee, who came down from New York to act as hostesses at this historic breakfast were: Katherine Anthony, Mrs. Frank Cothren, Katherine Leckie, Elizabeth Irwin, Lou Rogers, Nina Swinnerton, Helen Todd, Elizabeth Watson and Jane Thompson. Miss Jane Thompson presided.

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt spoke graciously of the momentousness of the occasion and called to mind the great hope for the international freedom of women that Russia and England by their latest stands had given. She set the date for the enfranchisement of American women as 1919, the 50th anniversary of the enfranchisement of the women of Wyoming.

MISS ALICE PAUL, more hopeful, expressed the belief of the National Woman's Party, that because of the activity of voting women of the West, the Sixty-fifth Congress, if the matter were kept constantly before them must act in the matter.

"For four years," said Miss Paul, "we have looked down on Congress, outsiders in the gallery, longing for one woman on the inside who would fight with us because our fight was her fight. We know today that our chances for passing the federal suffrage amendment this Congress are stronger than they ever were before. Seven million women in the voting states stand behind us, and we have at last a representative in Congress. All over this country today women believe that the beginning of the long battle for suffrage is nearing the end." Miss Paul reminded her audience that the young woman who was about to take her seat in Congress had also helped begin the new agitation for suffrage four years ago as a lobbyist in the very halls where her Congressional office is now established.

Over and over again, in the speeches that followed, by Mrs. Maude Wood Park, chairman of the Congressional Committee of the National American Woman Suffrage Association and Miss Anne Martin, chairman of the legislative section of the National Woman's Party, Miss Helen Todd, Mrs. Frank Cothren, Mrs. James Lees Laidlaw, and Miss Lou Rogers, the point was gratefully made that Congressman Rankin was a significant gain for all women. Her background, rich in the experience of the working professional women of the country, her friendly charm, her direct simplicity, her long and earnest work for the freedom of women, all these things left millions of women with a profound delight that at last the Susan B. Anthony amendment would be presented under truly favorable auspices.

And tears stood in many eyes when Miss Julia

Jeannette Rankin Makes Her First Speech in Washington

Lathrop, turning from a kindly bit of humor about the lions and the lambs of suffrage beside the new shepherdess, thanked Miss Rankin as the first Congressman-elect ever to write and ask for full information about the Children's Bureau, the first to regard as immediate and important, as the war cloud moved darkly over the nation, the Bureau which watches over thirty million children, the young life of the land.

Jeannette Rankin heard them all with her untasted breakfast before her. When she rose to speak, her voice trembled as she said, "There will be many times when I will make mistakes. I need your encouragement and your support, and I know I will get it. I promise——" There her voice quite broke and she sat down hurriedly like a child, not at all like a seasoned campaigner and politician.

JUST as simply as she had come to the woman's breakfast at the Shoreham, an hour later she took her seat in Congress, escorted by Congressman John M. Evans, the only other House member from Montana, and wearing the great purple, white and gold posy presented by the Woman's Party. Amid the storms of applause from the crowded galleries Jeannette Rankin was quite composed, laughing her appreciation, while members from both sides of the chamber crowded around her to offer congratulations. When her name was called on the roll by states, once more the applause on the floor and in the galleries broke forth and the response of the Lady from Montana was inaudible.

The applause was "just right," to quote an experienced journalist who looked down from the gallery. More applause would have overdone it. It would have indicated that the House regarded the Congressman from Montana as a freak adventure of a western electorate, and an object of conspicuous chivalry. They accepted her with respect and cordiality not so much determined to remind Miss Rankin constantly that she was a woman, as accepting kindly the fact that women had begun to be people.

"I will make mistakes," she had said, "but I promise——." Those woman-crowded galleries bore testimony that the women of this country will be satisfied with that unfinished promise. Jeannette Rankin has a difficult post to fill. A Congressman has but to represent his constituents; he generally is satisfied with that responsibility. Jeannette Rankin's constituency extends from ocean to ocean, from the Gulf to the Canadian line. There is not a woman in this country who does not more keenly feel her part in this government because of the Montana girl. It is safe to predict she will bring a new spirit to the Congress of the United States because of her larger hopes for women, because of her stress on human rights rather than property rights, because, in short, of her larger constituency.

Congressman Jeannette Rankin's first resolution proposed an amendment to the Constitution of the United States enfranchising women. The simple act of throwing Resolution number three into the basket turned a new page in the history of woman suffrage for this country.

For Resolution Number Three reads: The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

The First Drive on the Sixty-fifth Congress

A CAMPAIGN of intensive activity has been carried on this week by the Legislative Department of the National Woman's Party in Washington under the chairmanship of Miss Anne Martin. In the brief space intervening between the arrival of members of the new Congress in Washington and the calling of the Republican and Democratic organization caucuses, women representing both western and eastern states interviewed every Representative on the ground and put him on record as to his stand on the federal suffrage amendment.

THERE were eighty-nine new members to be interviewed, and Miss Younger, as head of the lobby committee, rallied her additional forces in splendid form and marched on the Capitol formidably armed with lists and information. In all the past history of the fight for suffrage so large a body had never greeted a new Congress. The members were a little non-plussed by the unexpected attack, and admitted that the federal amendment was the first matter drawn to their attention in Washington.

A special point was made of reaching every one of the important group of so-called Independents. These Representatives are Meyer London of New York, A. T. Fuller of Massachusetts, Thomas Schall of Minnesota, W. P. Martin of Louisiana, Charles H. Randall of California and M. C. Kelley of Pennsylvania. Of this group only one man, Martin of Louisiana, has not come out strongly for the federal amendment. In this Congress with the Republicans and Democrats about equal in numbers, these members are likely to prove the most important in the House, and their strong support may well be the nucleus of power that will rally other definite support of the federal amendment and so put the measure through.

Among the women lobbying were Mrs. W. J. Lambie of New York, Miss Anne Martin of Nevada, Miss Mabel Vernon of Nevada, Mrs. William Kent and Miss Mildred Gilbert of California, Miss Hazel Hunkins of Montana, Mrs. Alvin Barber of Oregon, Miss Ella Riegel of Pennsylvania, Miss Elsie Hill of Connecticut, Mrs. J. G. Peters and Miss Mary Gertrude Fendall of Maryland, Mrs. Alden Potter and Miss Sarah Grant of Minnesota, Mrs. A. P. Sherman of Massachusetts, and Mrs. Robert Baker, Miss Grace Needham, Miss Edith Goode and Miss Katharine Rolston Fisher of the District of Columbia.

CONGRESSMEN admitted generally that there had never been in the past history of a convening Congress so general an interest in suffrage or so favorable an attitude on the subject. Many of the Representatives expressed confidence in the passage of the suffrage amendment this Congress.

One of these new arrivals, Representative L. W. Fairfield of Indiana, declared he had been a suffragist for thirty years, but that it was not until with Mrs. Fairfield he watched the courageous march of the suffrage pickets in a pouring rain around the White House on March 4, that his wife with tears filling her eyes admitted that she had become a suffragist also. "'These are not young girls on parade; these are earnest women,'" he repeated her words. "I knew where I stood on the federal suffrage amendment that day," he said simply.

"I believe in woman suffrage and I am going to make a fight for federal suffrage in this Congress," was the declaration of Representative Graham of Illinois, another new member who met the Woman's Party lobby.

MANY of the new members of Congress were reached by deputations of their constituents before they left home, as well as in Washington, and those who could not be reached received many telegrams as to suffrage, as did the President. Wyoming members of the Woman's Party, reports Miss Margery Ross from Cody, sent a stream of letters and telegrams from that state urging the passage of federal suffrage this Congress.

One of the significant events of the week was the large deputation to Representative E. Y. Webb of North Carolina, probable chairman of the Judiciary Committee under Democratic control, in Charlotte, North Carolina, last week, when for the first time the women of that state appealed for his suffrage support in the name of the women of their own state.

Meyer London of New York, another member deputized, declared to a group of New York members of the Woman's Party that he is convinced that twenty-five or thirty men, of both parties, taking a stand for suffrage this session, can force the measure through Congress. Representative C. B. Frances, another New York Representative, declared himself to Mrs. Marcus Marks as "heart and soul for the federal suffrage amendment" and willing to take a stand for it this session.

F. H. La Guardia of New York told a deputation led by Miss Kathleen Taylor that he would work for the federal amendment whether he lost his reelection thereby or not. He recorded his opposition to what he regarded as the hopeless New York State fight which, he said, makes it harder for progressive Representatives to take a stand for the national measure; and declared he did not believe in pressing for a premature vote when there was no likelihood of passing the measure.

SENATOR William L. Calder of New York this week received a delegation of about one hundred New York women just before his departure to the Capitol, and declared that, though formerly opposed to the suffrage amendment, he was going to Washington with an open mind on the subject. Miss Lucy Burns led the deputation, with Mrs. John Rogers, Mrs. William Colt, Miss Vida Milholland, Mrs. Henry Butterworth, Mrs. Herbert Carpenter, Mrs. Walter Chambers, Mrs. Clarence Smith, Mrs. John Winters Brannan, Mrs. George Legge, and Miss Alice Carpenter among the New York members present. A brass band preceded the deputation to the Hotel McAlpin where the meeting was held in the Blue Room. "How will Senator Calder vote?" was the huge questioning sign that greeted the Senator at the Hotel entrance and in the reception room. The speakers were Miss Burns, Miss Alice Carpenter, Mrs. H. O. Havemeyer and Mrs. Charles Beard, wife of Professor Beard of Columbia University.

Mrs. Beard told the Senator that the United States was lagging behind most of the world in its treatment of women.

"The mujik's wife in Russia is more free than we are," she declared. "The women of Russia are to stand side by side with the men in the new democracy. Premier Lloyd George has promised British women the ballot. In Canada, Mexico, everywhere the bonds are dropping from women, and while Wilson could say yesterday that the United States leads the world in liberty, he cannot say it to-day."

In going on record recently in favor of the federal suffrage amendment to a deputation of New Jersey women led by Mrs. Howard P. Boyle, Representative Bacharach said that men in public life who had not yet committed themselves on the national suffrage question should be forced out in the open on the subject. He declared: "Votes for women is to be the urgent question before the country in the near future."

Representative Thomas J. Scully of New Jersey, when asked his position last week by the chairman of his district, replied that he was fully in favor of the amendment and at once offered to bring the question of action this session before the Democratic Caucus. The men and women of his district are now writing to him in great numbers to assure him of the support behind him in his constituency for the action.

Congressman Jeannette Rankin was among the first members to introduce a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States enfranchising women. The simple act of throwing Resolution number three into the basket turned a new page in the history of woman suffrage for this country. The suffrage resolution was also introduced by Representatives Raker of California, Keating of Colorado, Mondell of Wyoming and Hayden of Arizona. Representative Hayden also introduced a Resolution to create a committee on woman suffrage in the House.

The suffrage measure was introduced in the Senate by Senators Thompson of Kansas, Owen of Oklahoma, Jones of New Mexico, and Shafroth of Colorado. The Susan B. Anthony measure in this Congress will be known as the Raker-Thompson Resolution. It has been automatically referred to the Judiciary Committee of the House and the Suffrage Committee of the Senate.

The Entrance of the National Woman's Party into the South

A NEW state has added its strength to the demand being made upon the leaders of the Democratic party for nation-wide suffrage for women. At a conference held in Charlotte, North Carolina, the North Carolina branch of the National Woman's Party was organized and a deep impression made on the electorate of the state. Suffrage street meetings were held for the first time in the history of the state, and Representative E. Y. Webb, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee in the Sixty-fifth Congress, was interviewed by forty of his women constituents.

IT was particularly fitting that this new demand for freedom--the freedom of American women--should have taken place where one of the first and most dramatic stands for the liberty of this country was made.

North Carolina Deputation to Chairman Webb

The Hotel Selwyn, where the state conference of the Woman's Party took place, is located at the historic crossroads where the old Mecklenburg County Courthouse stood. It was on this spot that the "May twentieth resolutions" were adopted in 1775, when North Carolina, leading the other colonies by more than a year, threw off the yoke of Great Britain and declared, "We are a free and self-governing people." It was significant that on the same spot a so-called representative of the whole people, Representative E. Y. Webb, should have been asked actively to support the federal suffrage amendment enfranchising the women of North Carolina and the nation.

Representative Webb consented to receive a deputation of Woman's Party members in Charlotte on his way back to Washington. Miss Julia Alexander, President of the Mecklenburg County Equal Suffrage League, as chairman of the deputation, introduced the speakers assembled in the parlor of the hotel, gay for the occasion with the purple, white and gold tri-color of the party. Miss Willie I. Shelby, the first speaker, pointed out that their representative could never again rise in Congress and claim that the women of North Carolina do not want to vote since the representative group before him not only demanded action for their state but for the nation as a whole.

Miss Geane Robinson, a recent graduate of Randolph-Macon College, making her first suffrage speech, spoke for the young college women of her state, pointing out that political inequality must be done away with as educational inequality has been. Miss Alexander, a woman lawyer, demonstrated that the federal suffrage amendment is no infringement of states' rights.

Mr. Webb replied that he was flattered and honored to have met such a company of good women. He claimed that he had never stood in the way of bringing the suffrage amendment to a vote, that he had merely "wisely postponed" releasing suffrage and prohibition to a vote. "I do not believe in suffrage and shall continue to vote against it," admitted the Congressman, "but I do believe the question should be voted on on the floor of the House. I am a states' rights Democrat, but I believe that when the good women of my state want to vote, they will vote."

UNDISTURBED by the views of the man elected to represent them, the new group, organized as a part of the National Woman's Party, worked aggressively and cheerfully to interest Carolina women in the new fight for liberty. Women in every part of the state were reached. Active headquarters were opened in the Selwyn Hotel, and street meetings to lay the new battle for the freedom of women before the casual passers-by were held. Both men and women enlisted under the purple, white and gold standard of the Woman's Party. Among the street speakers were Miss Beulah Amidon, of North Dakota, and Miss Doris Stevens, of New York, who were assisting in the organization of the conference, and Mrs. Arthur Taylor and Mrs. W. A. Reynolds, Charlotte women who took a leading part in the organization of the state conference. One night the crowd by acclamation voted a resolution calling upon the President and the North Carolina members in Congress to secure the immediate passage of the suffrage amendment and elected a committee to send the resolutions to Washington.

THE state conference held in the dining-room of the Selwyn Hotel was the most brilliant suffrage gathering ever held in Charlotte. The room had been charmingly decorated in the suffrage colors, combined with spring blossoms and delicate ferns. The decorations were arranged by Miss Mary Taylor Moore and her energetic committee.

Eighty women attended the conference, including a number of out-of-town women,

among them Mrs. W. E. Thomas of Greensboro, Mrs. W. Lingle of Davidson, and Mrs. A. M. Secrest, who led a delegation from Monroe. Miss Julia Alexander, whose father was formerly Congressman from Representative Webb's district and who sent a message of good-will to the women, called the conference to order and acted as toast-mistress. Dr. A. A. McGeachy, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, made a strong plea for suffrage—and suffrage for the women of the nation by the shortest route, the federal suffrage amendment.

Miss Margaret Berry, a member of the Charlotte Bar, dealt with the states' rights argument. Miss Beulah Amidon told of the country-wide growth of the suffrage movement and the new movement in the powerful voting states in the West where women were sacrificing party affiliations for Eastern and Southern women. Mrs. Mary Taylor Moore, of Greensboro, brought a word of greeting from the women of her county as President of the Guilford County League, and both Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. W. A. Reynolds emphasized the fact that suffrage had outgrown the propaganda stage and must be now guided by considerations of political expediency.

Miss Doris Stevens, in outlining the growth of the Woman's Party as the vigorous, effective political party of the "young suffrage" movement, said she had been asked to refute the charge of militancy. "I am never sure," she said, "what people mean by militancy. But if they mean the spirit of impatience, the fine hot spark of rebellion that will not compromise and will not wait, then we must certainly plead guilty." The applause of the large audience that had assembled following the luncheon showed that this spirit was not dead in the South.

FOLLOWING the reading of the state constitution of the Woman's Party of North Carolina by Mrs. Ross N. Scott, a nominating committee composed of Mrs. E. F. McGowan, Mrs. E. R. Preston, the granddaughter of Stonewall Jackson, and Mrs. Mary Taylor Wood proposed the following officers for North Carolina, who were unanimously elected: Mrs. Arthur Taylor of Charlotte, chairman; Miss Margaret Berry, Charlotte; Miss Elizabeth Hedrick, Salisbury; Mrs. Lila Barnwell, Hendersonville; Miss Lillian Clement, Ashville, and Mrs. J. H. White, Greensboro,—vice-chairmen; Mrs. W. R. Robertson, Charlote, secretary, and Mrs. Joseph Hull, jr., Charlotte, treasurer. This state committee, meeting after the conference, decided to maintain permanent headquarters in Charlotte at the Selwyn Hotel, and will elect standing committees including finance, headquarters, membership, and publicity.

Energetic plans were made at once for further Woman's Party activity in the state. A bridge tournament is to be held at the Charlotte Country Club immediately after Lent, and a mass meeting with a speaker from Washington is planned for the week following.

Comments of the Press

Gaining Ground

THE women seem to be gaining on both sides of the water. Premier Asquith has revised his opinion of woman suffrage in the light of his experiences since the war and has moved the adoption of a plan for electoral reform. Premier Lloyd-George has come out unequivocally with a declaration in favor of woman suffrage, and that is a big concession. Coming closer to home, we have the statement that Miss Jeannette Rankin, the woman Congressman, intends to introduce the federal suffrage amendment in the House as soon after its organization as possible, and with a woman directly back of it the bill may have a fairer sailing than formerly. This will be the fortieth time the bill will have been introduced in the House and ought to win by virtue of attrition, if for no other cause. And then again, the suffragists have succeeded in having a heart-to-heart talk with Congressman Webb, who has not had so much love for the Congressional Union, now relegated to the past, in name, at least, and who maybe is revising his opinion as to the amount of unanimity of the women for the vote. When they persuade Webb that they really want to vote, the women will have scored a point worth while.—*Charlotte, N. Car., Observer, March* 29.

Suffrage as Preparedness

THE President might wisely add a recommendation in favor of the Anthony equal suffrage amendment to his legislative program at the coming special session, as an essential part of the preparedness and national efficiency procedure. This is a time when every available source of national strength should be summoned in support of the national duty and opportunity. It is no longer necessary to plead the women's cause in war aid and co-operation. Should it be necessary to plead for them their rights to participation in the selection of the government which they can and will serve nobly and effectively?

Efforts will be made to induce the President to urge the Anthony amendment upon Congress at once. The Congressional Union is already active in this purpose.—*The Boston Record, March* 23.

Our Country Last, Says the Humorist

THE United States, we conjecture, will be the last nation to grant suffrage to women, and the last of the states will be Massachusetts. (Cut this out. It will not appear again.)—*B.L.T., in the Chicago Tribune, March* 30.

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List of Contributions from March 26 Through April 2, 1917

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Miss Editha Phelps	25.00
Miss Charlotte Delafield.	5.00
Mrs. Benton MacKaye	1.00
Mrs. Richard Wainwright	5.00
Miss Mary V. Tongue	5.00
Delaware Branch	217.00
Mrs. Eldridge Jordan	5.00
Mrs. J. E. Lambie	10.00
Mrs. Lucy E. Spencer	3.00
Miss Winifred Mallon	10.00
Mr. Michael Francis Doyle	25.00
Mrs. Nevil Monroe Hopkins	5.00
Mrs. Henry Justice	25.00
Mrs. George H. Day	1.50
"Through Mrs. Adamson"	25.00
Mrs. Charles V. Meredith	50.00
Mrs. Ethel Lorenz Halladay	1.00
Miss Mary B. Dixon	5.00
Mrs. Townsend Scott	45.00
Elizabeth T. Kent.	500.00
Miss Ida Craft.	6.00
Miss Aline Solomon	2.00
Dr. Cora Smith King	1.00
Miss Anna Constable	1.00
Mrs. Agnes Morey.	10.00
Miss Katharine Morey	10.00
Miss Bridget Sullivan	5.00
Mrs. S. B. M. Young	5.00
Miss Elsie Lancaster	1.00
Mrs. Amos Pinchot.	25.00
Miss Elizabeth Knudsen.	25.00
Mrs. Sara C. Smith	5.00
Collections	1.05
Membership fees	6.75
Total	1,905.30
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST	223,122.19

National Headquarters Receipts:

Total collected by National Headquarters through April 2, 1917	$225,027.49

Contributions made to Colorado Headquarters:

Mrs. S. E. Solly	10.00
A Friend	5.00
Mrs. J. F. Burns	15.00
Mrs. C. A. Baldwin	5.00
Mrs. Berne Hopkins	30.00
Mrs. S. F. Hamp	5.00
Mrs. H. C. Watt	25.00

Contributions made to Illinois Headquarters:

Mrs. Bertram L. Sippy	73.00
Misses Alice and Ella Boynton	1.25
Mrs. S. M. Baldwin	1.00
Mrs. Louise M. Owens	10.00
Mrs. Clifford Chickering	2.00
Miss Frances Frothingham	4.00
Mrs. Mildred G. Bowen	1.00
Mrs. Samuel Adams	1.00
Mrs. Avery Coonley	100.00
Sale of Tickets	16.00
Total	304.25
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST	28,265.14

Branch Receipts:

Total collected by the branches through April 2, 1917	28,569.39
Grand Total	$253,596.88

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